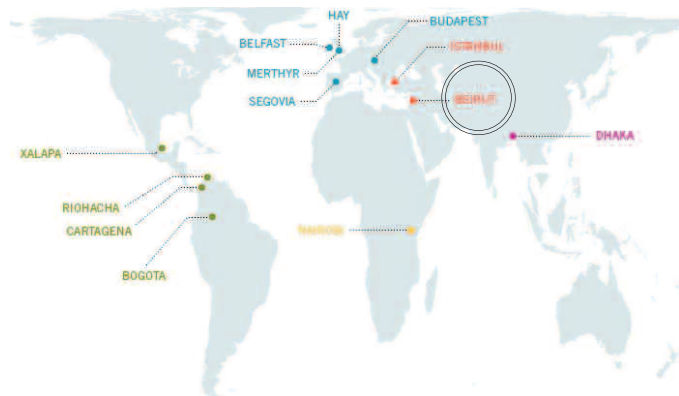


FESTIVAL REPORT



HAY FESTIVAL

BEIRUT

4-6 July 2012



LITERATURE



IDEAS



STORIES





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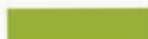
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THE FESTIVAL

BUILDING ON THE SUCCESS OF THE BEIRUT39 EVENT IN APRIL 2010, which brought together 39 Arab writers under the age of 39, the first Hay Festival Beirut was held from 4-6 July 2012 in the Lebanon capital. In terms of the range of countries represented – 21, with 51 artists and sessions in three languages (Arabic, French and English) – it was our most international so far and attracted an audience of 1200 people.

Working with partners that included Beirut Art Center, British Council and Literature Across Frontiers, the three-day festival featured writers, journalists, bloggers and thinkers in an inspiring series of discussions, debates and workshops.



For 25 years Hay Festival has celebrated the power of great ideas to transform our way of thinking and re-imagine the world. Based in Hay-on-Wye (Wales), the Festival was drawn the most exciting writers, filmmakers, comedians, musicians, politicians and historians to inspire, delight and entertain.

For the past six years Hay Festival has become a global organization, producing events across five continents including Spain (Segovia) Colombia (Cartagena de Indias, Riohacha and Bogota), Kenya (Storymoja in Nairobi), India (Kerala), Dhaka (Bangladesh), Kolkata (India), Mexico (Xalapa) and Budapest (Hungary), in addition to Beirut.

Hay has collaborated with the creators of other successful arts festivals in Italy (Mantova) and Brazil (Parati). It also runs the B39 project, set in Bogotá (2007) and Beirut (2010), in which the best young writers are promoted, working with UNESCO on their project World Book Capital.



THE FESTIVAL IN NUMBERS

1200 audience **3** days

18 events in Beirut Art

Center and Zico House

3 Meeting the author events

for students and groups

1 event at Shatila Camp

2 parties celebrating the

Hay Festival

4 events in Arabic

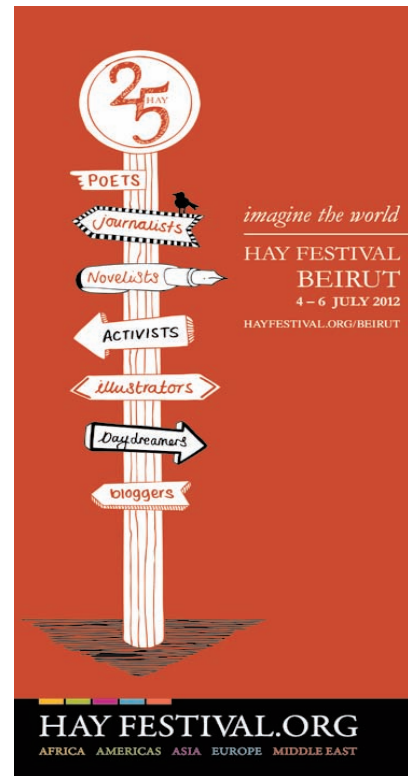
3 events in French

8 events in English

1 exhibition with the Cervantes Institute

51 artists from **21** countries

1000 users on Facebook



THE FESTIVAL IN WORDS

From the artists:

'What an experience! There were so many fascinating people, such great conversations plus (most importantly) it really educated me and opened my eyes to the everyday lives behind the headlines and politics. I returned a changed woman!' **Karrie Fransman**

'Hay Festival helps put people in the mood for dialogue. This is crucial not just for our region but for culture worldwide.' **Fadi Tofeili**



NAJWAN DARWISH



JOUMANA MEDLEJ

'Hay managed to create, in a small group of literary and artistic types, the international feel of much larger events, a true breath of fresh air and new ideas.' **Joumana Medlej**

'..a breadth of cross-cultural argument and insight seldom seen at UK literary festivals.' **John Kampfner**

'Wonderful festival.' **Najwan Darwish**

'What an incalculable gift it is to be part of this family, the Hay family of brothers and sisters, which contains in its concreteness the universal desire for brotherhood and sisterhood that defines the human.' **Óscar Guardiola-Rivera**



OSCAR GUARDIOLA-RIVERA



THE FESTIVAL IN WORDS

From the press:

'Packed Beirut Arts Center auditorium.'
Daily Star

'...for many of the writers, this festival has given a great boost to their writing life.'
L'Orient Le Jour

'Feast for the mind.'
Now Lebanon

'In a region currently going through a process of transformational change, it seems particularly pertinent that the festival enables dialogue in the region.'
Brownbook

'It's great to see the Arab world embrace free expression.'
Google European Policy Blog

'Many will be hoping that some erudite discussion could do for Beirut's and Lebanon's image what the Hay Festival in Cartagena has done for Colombia's. More people need to realise how interesting and sophisticated a destination Lebanon is.'
The Telegraph



THE FESTIVAL IN THE MEDIA

Local Press

Daily Star / Hibr / Now Lebanon / L'Orient Le Jour / Al Akhbar / Al Safir / Beirut.com / LAU

International Press

Telegraph / PULSE Media / Arablit / METRO newspaper London / El Espectador (Colombia) / Brownbook (Dubai) / Google (Middle East) / Publishing Perspectives

TV Coverage **MTV Lebanon**

- Interview with J. Teller, J. Gower and M. Syjuco
- Interview with K. Fransman, S. Negrouche, R. Simic and E. Schoulgin
- Interview with M. Ez Eldin, H. Selmi and A. Mousallam
- Interview with J. L. Anderson and E. Schoulgin
- Interview with H. Kawsarani and N. Barakat



THE FESTIVAL AND ITS SPONSORS

- ✦ Brand presence outside and inside festival venues
- ✦ Logos shown at the beginning of each event
- ✦ Logos shown in the festival's TV ad, aired nationally by MTV Lebanon
- ✦ Logos in the festival brochure (2,000 printed copies)
- ✦ Logos on the festival website, with approximately 4 million visits per year



MEETING THE AUTHORS

Hay Festival Beirut Outreach Programme

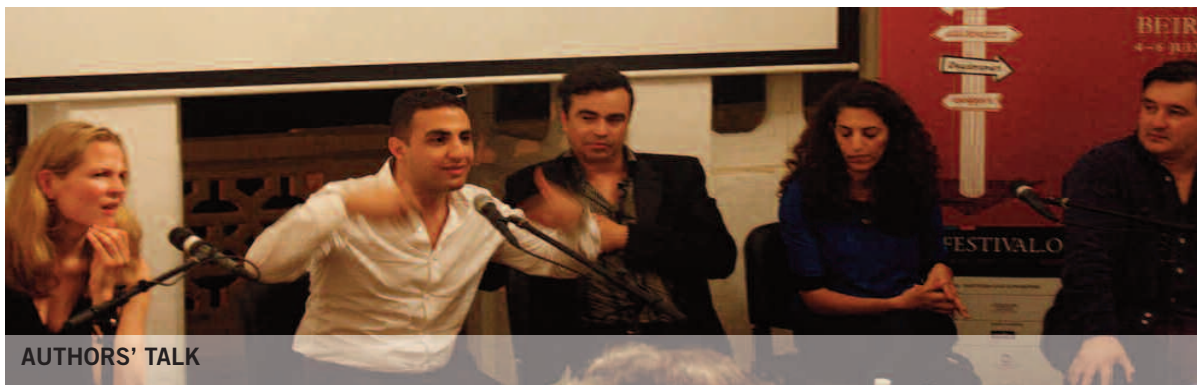
Hay Festival Beirut's first outreach programme set out to engage young, varied audiences from the city in discussions and events about literature, journalism and human rights to encourage cultural exchange and dialogue. In a city with such a complex social structure, the outreach programme opens up the festival's programme to a wider audience.

This year there were events with Armenian groups, the Danish writer Janne Teller, a journalism workshop at LAU School of Business with Jon Lee Anderson of the *New Yorker* magazine and a talk with the Palestinian writers Najwan Darwish, Akram Musallam and Dalia Taha at Shatila Camp. In 2013 we aim to continue and increase our collaboration with local groups and community centres.



LITERATURE ACROSS FRONTIERS CONFERENCE

Literature Across Frontiers, the European Platform for Literary Exchange, Translation and Policy Debate, took the opportunity of the inaugural Hay Festival Beirut 2012 to hold a seminar of festivals and literary organisations from the Euro-Mediterranean region to discuss possibilities for future co-operation.



THE FESTIVAL IN PICTURES



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: HYAM YARED; FADI TOFEILI; AUDIENCE AT ZICO HOUSE'S SLAM; SONDOS SHABAYEK; AUDIENCE AT BEIRUT ART CENTER; ZEINA ABIRACHED; KAMILA SHAMSIE, JOHN KAMPFNER AND JANNE TELLER; AKRAM MUSALLAM AND MIGUEL SYJUCO



ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Zeina ABIRACHED, Moe ALI NAYEL, Jon Lee ANDERSON, Lana ASFOUR, Clare AZZOPARDI, Najwa BARAKAT, Zeina BASSIL, Abbas BAYDOUN, Monika BORGMANN, Benedict BROGAN, Najwan DARWISH, Zena EL KHALIL, Samir ELBAHAIE, Mansoura EZ ELDIN, Tina Fish, Karrie FRANSMAN, Paolo GIORDANO, Jon GOWER, Óscar GUARDIOLA-RIVERA, Joumana HADDAD, John KAMPFNER, Hala KAWTHARANI, Mazen KERBAJ, Khaled KHALIFA, Joumana MEDLEJ, Akram MUSALLAM, Samira NEGROUCHE, Nizar SAHGIEH, Abir SAKSOUK-SASSO, Walid SALEK, Åsne SEIERSTAD, Habib SELMI, Sondos SHABAYEK, Kamilla SHAMSHIE, Fadi SHAYYA, Hind SHOUFANI, Roman SIMIC, Miguel SYJUCO, Dalia TAHA, Susan TALHOUK, Nayla TAMRAZ, Janne TELLER, Fadi TOFEILI, Nadine TOUMA, Abdo WAZEN, Hyam YARED, Robin YASSIN-KASSAB and Mazen ZAHREDDINE.



HAY FESTIVAL BEIRUT 2012 – PARTNERS AND SUPPORTERS

GLOBAL PARTNER



UK MEDIA PARTNER



PARTNERS



MEDIA PARTNERS



SUPPORTERS

